

Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice September 15, 2006

The Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ), of the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice met Friday, September 15, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. at the Hastings Regional Center, Hastings, Nebraska. Notice of this meeting was published September 1, 2006 in the Lincoln Journal Star.

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Tom McBride, Chair of the NCJJ.

II. Roll Call

Members present: Michael Behm, James Blue, Austin Brockmeier, Ellen Brokofsky, Christopher Connolly, Andee Hardesty, Kim Hawekotte, Kylee Hoffmaster, Ron Johns, Tom McBride, Kay McMinn, Elaine Menzel, Tim O'Dea, and Kent Turnbull. **Members excused:** Linda Benjamin, Charles Brewster, John Clark, Lawrence Gendler, Audra Liebig, T.J. McDowell, Justin Mickles, Kathy Moore, Gerard Piccolo, Danielle Reinke, Reggie Ryder, Tanya Terry, and Jerry Watson. **Members absent:** Mark Montgomery, and Todd Reckling. **Staff present:** Chris Harrifeld, Monica Miles-Steffens, and Stephanie Vensky.

McBride welcomed Judge Kent Turnbull as a new member to the Coalition and self introductions were made.

III. Approval of June 9, 2006 Minutes

Motion

A motion was made by Menzel and seconded by O'Dea to approve the June 9, 2006 meeting minutes. (Motion carried unanimously.)

IV. Crime Commission Report

a. Compliance Letter for DMC

Miles-Steffens reported a letter from OJJDP was received stating Nebraska is in compliance with the last core requirement which allows the state to receive the full allocation of funding for Disproportionate Minority Contact.

b. Report on Grant Management and Grant Writing Training

Miles-Steffens reported six Grant Management trainings have been conducted for new subgrantees that were awarded in May as well as County Aid and Title V grants that were awarded in July. Trainings were held in Kearney, Lincoln and a tele-video training in the panhandle. One make up training was held in Lincoln.

Miles-Steffens reported Jennifer Kirkpatrick and herself conducted Grant Writing Training in Kearney in July for approximately 35 people. She said some new components were added to the training, which received good feedback.

c. Program Monitor Report

Miles-Steffens stated she has been doing site visits and working with Winnebago Tribe to get their grant up and running. She has been working with the new Project Director in Merrick County and conducted site visits in Hall, Howard, Sherman, Jefferson and Gage Counties. At the end of the month will be doing site visits in Hamilton and Seward County.

d. Attorney General's meeting on youth legislation

Miles-Steffens reported the Attorney General's office held a lunch meeting to discuss potential legislation for Juvenile Justice. She said Kathy Moore from Voices for Children, TeamMates and several other Private Non-Profit agencies were among the attendees.

e. Grantsmanship Training

Miles-Steffens reported she attended a week long intensive grant writing training. She said it provided good information that can be incorporated into the grant writing training that we provide and gave her a year long membership to access their database of all the different grants available. She said she would like to utilize that information to find other resources for different projects or initiatives.

f. Title II/Juvenile Services Grant Announcement – Oct. 30, 2006

Miles-Steffens stated Title II and Juvenile Services Grants will be announced on October 30, 2006.

g. Next Juvenile Diversion Meeting – October 26, 2006

Miles-Steffens provided copies of the first Juvenile Diversion news letter and thanked Petra Smith from Cedars for putting it together. She said all the diversion coordinators would meet twice a year and then supplement with the news letter twice a year. She stated the next meeting will be October 26, 2006 with the location to be announced.

Miles-Steffens announced the OJJDP representative would be in Lincoln October 30 thru November 2.

McBride gave a brief update on the Federal Advisory Committee for Juvenile Justice. He said they will be meeting at the end of October in Charlotte, NC to finalize the report to the President and Congress. He said one of the highlights of the report was an emphasis to increase funding for all Juvenile Justice grants and reduce earmarks. Another recommendation is to make funding available for mental health issues for kids in secure detention at the county and state level.

V. Sub-grantee Presentation: Carissa Urmacher – County Aid- WECAN

Carissa is the project administrator for the County Aid grant, which serves Adams, Clay, Nuckolls & Webster Counties. She gave a brief overview of the different programs and how the funds received from the Crime Commission are being utilized for diversion, treatment and mentoring. She said in the past few years they have faced some challenges such as change in personnel, changes in reporting and planning but managed to have many successes, which include the Youth Task Force, Intensive Outpatient Program for Adolescents and the expansion of diversion to Clay, Nuckolls & Webster Counties.

Carissa provided a handout that outlined the different programs and showed how the funds are being utilized.

VI. Sub-Committee Reports

a. Executive: Legislation; Appointments

McBride reported the Executive Committee held a conference call to discuss the Three Year Plan and the Annual Report. He said there will be 22 new elected Senators and members of the Coalition need to make those Senators aware of what the Coalition's efforts are and how it supports the communities.

Miles-Steffens announced several members of the Coalition appointments expire at the end of the year and she will be contacting those individuals to see if they are interested in re-appointment or have suggestions of others who would be interested in serving on the committee.

Hawekotte gave a brief overview of the Governor's plan to restructure all of HHSS to make it easier to access the individual departments.

b. DMC: Report on DMC initiatives

Miles-Steffens reported several members from the DMC committee attended a conference in New Orleans, which focused on addressing disproportionate minority contact issues on the Law Enforcement level. She said Jen Janovec, Liz Neely and herself would be attending a conference next week in San Francisco on DMC. A meeting is scheduled in October to discuss the information brought back from the conferences and to look at the work plan.

c. Grant Review

Nothing to report.

d. Youth

Nothing to report.

e. OJS Committee

Hawekotte reported the OJS committee has been formed and met briefly. She said they are looking at dates for the next meeting, which can also be done by conference call. She asked anyone that would be interested in serving on the committee to let her know.

Hawekotte said one issue of discussion was reviewing the statute for Public Defenders in juvenile court. Another issue affecting OJS and State Probation is to make sure the YLSI remains on track and how to assess and accumulate the data. She said the unicameral allotted \$75,000 to update the Chinn study that was done in 1999. The study will look at both of the YRTC's, the Hastings Regional Center and to include treatment for juveniles and methamphetamine use among juveniles.

Judge Turnbull voiced interest in serving on the committee.

Brokofsky described some of the issues that are going on in probation and their efforts to partner with OJS. She also brought the SIG grant, which is administered by HHSS and deals with developing an infrastructure for mental health services, to the attention of the group. There was a lengthy discussion about the purpose of the grant and the progress made thus far.

VII. Discussion of County Aid Draft Rule and Regulation

Miles-Steffens gave a brief overview of the draft Rule and Regulation, which was provided in the mail-out. It first lists the eligibility criteria and how counties will need to develop a Three Year Plan with technical assistance provided by the Crime Commission. Discussion was held on possibly re-writing the rule of how the funds are awarded per county and to present to the Coalition at its December meeting.

In the current Draft Rule and Regulations it states counties receiving \$5,000 or more are required a 40% match and \$5,000 or less are required a 20% match. Miles-Steffens asked for thoughts or comments on the match funds. O'Dea proposed leaving the required match at 40% for all counties. He said in reading most of the applications in the past he felt they didn't have a problem meeting the 40%. The group agreed to leave the required match funds at 40% for all counties.

VIII. Discussion of Elections in December

McBride said a Nomination form for Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson and a copy of the Operating Instruction explaining the terms of office were enclosed in the mail-out. He asked those nominations be given to Monica by the end of business on September 22, 2006.

McBride gave a brief overview of the Chairperson and Vice Chairpersons duties and responsibilities to the Coalition. He said it was a very rewarding and learning experience for him to serve as the Chair of the Coalition.

IX. Discussion of JABG interest grant funds

Miles-Steffens reported there is approximately \$30,000 in the JABG interest account. She asked the committee if they would approve for Kim, Ellen and herself to put together a plan to help support the School Intervention Worker Program and that grant be submitted to the Crime Commission in October.

Motion

A motion was made by Connolly and seconded by O'Dea to authorize staff to develop a plan for the use of the JABG interest grant funds for a School Intervention Worker Program. Voting in favor of the motion: Behm, Blue, Brockmeier, Brokofsky, Connolly, Hardesty, Hawekotte, Hoffmaster, Johns, McMinn, Menzel, O'Dea, and Turnbull. (Motion carried.)

X. Discussion of travel request by Cindy Strasheim

McBride stated Cindy Strasheim has submitted a travel request in the amount of \$850 to attend the Children's Rights Council national meeting in Washington D.C. where she will present on Kids Talk About Divorce.

Motion

A motion was made by O'Dea and seconded by Blue to approve the \$850 travel request for Cindy Strasheim to present at the Children's Rights Council national conference in Washington, D.C. Voting in favor of the motion: Behm, Blue, Brockmeier, Brokofsky, Connolly, Hardesty, Hawekotte, Hoffmaster, Johns, McMinn, Menzel, O'Dea, and Turnbull. (Motion carried.)

XI. Discussion of second draft of Annual Report to Governor

McBride said a second draft copy of the Annual Report to the Governor was provided to the members for their review. He said once this report is finalized they would set up a time to present it to the Governor and tell him some of the challenges within the state, some of the accomplishments and some recommendations of things yet to come.

Miles-Steffens pointed out the changes to the report from the recommendations from the June meeting.

McBride thanked Monica for putting the report together and complimented her on the great job and all the hard work that went into the report.

XII. Approve payment of lunch

Motion

A motion was made by Menzel and seconded by Connolly to approve funds to provide lunch. Voting in favor of the motion: Behm, Blue, Brockmeier, Brokofsky, Connolly, Hardesty, Hoffmaster, Johns, McMinn, Menzel, O'Dea, and Turnbull.

The meeting broke briefly to distribute lunch and resumed at 12:00.

XIII. Report on Underage Drinking and OJJDP conferences: Kay McMinn/Monica

McMinn provided a handout outlining the Underage Drinking conference she attended August 24-26 in Baltimore. She also provided a brief summary of the sessions she attended and asked people to contact her if they wanted further information. Overall she said the conference was very good and informative.

Miles-Steffens reported on the required OJJDP training she attended in New Orleans. She said the sessions were very general and did not offer much new information. She said one good topic of discussion was about the HAY (Helping America's Youth) tool a website sponsored by First Lady Bush, which allows communities to enter resources and grants available and that information can be searched nationally. OJJDP is putting together a geo-mapping program that includes best practices, the HAY tool, and other resources that should be very helpful once it is complete.

XIV. Public Comment

None

XV. New Business/Future Agenda Items

McBride said the final draft of the Rule & Regulation for County Aid grant funds will be ready for review at the December meeting along with the election of Chair and Vice Chair and allot of new information from the OJS committee.

XVI. Presentation and Tour of Hastings Youth Facility (1:00 p.m.)

A tour of the Hastings Youth Facility was provided to the members of the Coalition.

XVII. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:00.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Vensky
Staff Support